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7 June 1960

MEMORANDUM FOR: 25X1A9a
SUBJECT: Soviet Elections and Military Manpower
REFERENCE: [REDACTED]

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1. The following items are [REDACTED] in reply to the three questions which he raised in the referenced memorandum.

a. For the All-Union election years in which elected deputies were not identified by either rank or occupation, the numbers of military deputies were established on the basis of knowledge of military personalities -- that is, the official returns were checked on a name by name basis with reference to available military biographic files. An appendix has been included in the final version of the memorandum which gives the lists of the military deputies that underly the calculations of military manpower and describes more fully the compilation of these lists. The final version of the memorandum should be available in the near future.

b. The case for the premise can be made no stronger than as presented in the draft Economic Intelligence Memorandum. It is indeed quite possible that military deputies reflect the relative political influence of the military rather than numerical strength. It may be, however, that the two phenomena are not mutually exclusive -- that is, political influence and numerical strength of the military may also be directly related. Unfortunately, the comments received as a result of circulating the draft memorandum did not reveal any new evidence that either proves or strongly supports the validity of the premise. On the other hand, it is of interest to note that the opportunity provided by the commenting process did not yield any new evidence which could be construed as casting serious doubt on the validity of the premise.

c. The premise, as presented, does not depend on the condition that internal Soviet troops be directly represented by military deputies nor is there any evidence available which indicates that all troops are so represented. There

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are undoubtedly military precincts in at least some of the electoral districts which elect military deputies, but this is incidental to the premise. If in fact military personnel are represented by military deputies, it would probably be true only in an aggregate sense -- that is, that the total number of military deputies reflects the total military population in the same proportion as the total number of deputies reflects the total population.

25X1X7 2. I am attaching a copy of the draft which is now on its way to the editorial staff; I thought it might be useful to you should [REDACTED] some further questions to which the newer version might be responsive. Incidentally, the memo [REDACTED] arrived here in the middle of May. We held up our reply until all the comments were in, because we wondered whether anyone would be able to establish reasonably that the premise was false (see 1 b. above).

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25X1X7 3. Personal regards to [REDACTED] and all.

[REDACTED] 25X1A9a

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ORR/I/ME/[REDACTED]:msd/x3803(7 June 60)

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